



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Thursday January 26, 2006 -- 05-003
District: District 2 - Redding
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SR 299 Slide near Burnt Ranch under One-Way Traffic

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) continues cleanup and repairs on State Route 299, 0.5 miles west of Burnt Ranch near the Trinity/Humboldt county line, after a rockslide closed the highway to all traffic for approximately eighteen hours.

Crews worked throughout the evening clearing debris and rocks, some as large as a standard size pick-up truck, from the road surface. As of 7:00 am January 26, 2006, the roadway was open to one-way traffic.

Several thousand cubic yards of material, equivalent to 250 dump trucks, had previously been removed from this slide. Wednesday morning's activity brought an additional 1,000 to 1,500 cubic feet of rock and debris across the road. Caltrans geologists have determined the slide is still active and crews continue to monitor.

This area, known as McDonalds Bluff, has a history of previous slide activity. It was reactivated after water from recent storms saturated soils above the slide and penetrated fractures and joints within the rock. Continued rains, along with freezing and thawing have kept this 600-foot high and 1,000-foot wide slide moving while hindering repair efforts. Crews continue working in the area and motorists can anticipate delays.

For information on road conditions, and chain controls go to <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/> or call 1-800-GAS-ROAD

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NOTE: *An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address:* http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm

